

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
ACDA-12 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /123 W
-----093427 232241Z/23

O R 232056Z MAY 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1991
INFO NACB COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HAVANA 1386

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PORG, CU
SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE: MIDDLE EAST ASPECTS

REF: (A) HAVANA 1343, (B) HAVANA 1336

1. SUMMARY: TORRID SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN DEBATES ON MIDDLE EAST AT
NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING (MAY 15-20) ENDED WITH
HARSH EXCHANGE BETWEEN SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVES.
WHILE EGYPTIANS ARE CLAIMING THEY ESCAPED CRITICISM, SYRIANS
WERE ABLE TO ADVANCE THEIR CAUSE AT NAM MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. HOTLY-DEBATED MIDDLE EAST ISSUE ENDED WITH NASTY EXCHANGE IN
WAKE OF PERSONAL DENUNCIATION OF PRESIDENT SADAT AND HIS TRIP TO
ISRAEL BY SYRIAN MINISTER OF STATE ADBEL KARIM ADI, MAY19.
EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE REPORTEDLY RESPONDED THAT ATTACK ON SADAT
VIOLATED TRADITION OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, THAT DIFFERENCES
AMONG ARABS SHOULD BE KEPT IN ARAB CAMP AND THAT "THOSE WHOSE
HANDS ARE DIRTY WITH KILLING OF PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON" HAVE
NO RIGHT TO GIVE ADVICE TO OTHERS. AT THIS POINT, SYRIAN
BEGAN POUNDING TABLE WITH GLASS BUT WAS RESTRAINED BY CUBAN
FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA WHO REFUSED TO GIVE FURTHER RIGHT
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OF REPLY TO SYRIANS OR EGYPTIANS. (COMMENT: EGYPTIANS
BELIEVE CUBANS WERE UPSET BY SYRIAN PRESSURE AGAINST EGYPT
WHICH DISRUPTED NON-ALIGNED SHOW OF UNITY WHICH CUBANS
WANTED.)

3. DESPITE EGYPTIAN AFFIRMATIONS TO US THAT FOURTEEN OF
TWENTY-FOUR MEMBERS OF NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU

SUPPORTED THEIR POSITION, FINAL COMMUNIQUE APPROVED BY BUREAU SHOWS THAT SYRIAN TOUGHENING (REF B) OF CUBAN DRAFT (REF A) HAD SUBSTANTIAL SUCCESS. FINAL COMMUNIQUE MAKES FOLLOWING POINTS:

--PALESTINIAN QUESTION CONSTITUTES "ESSENCE OF MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM AND SOLUTION OF BOTH PROBLEMS IN INSEPARABLE." NAM BUREAU UNDERLINED "NECESSITY OF SAFEGUARDING INTRINSIC UNITY OF PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WHEN IT IS EXAMINED JOINTLY WITH MIDDLE EAST SITUATION."

--"...ANY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH JUST AND LASTING PEACE SHOULD NECESSARILY INCLUDE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND RECOGNITION OF INALIENABLE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE."

--"...ANY SOLUTION THAT DOES NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THESE TWO FUNDAMENTAL CONDITIONS WILL NOT SERVE TO PROMOTE CAUSE OF PEACE; ON THE CONTRARY, IT WILL ONLY SMOOTH PATH FOR ALL EFFORTS OF UNITED STATES TO LIQUIDATE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AND TO HELP ISRAEL REACH ITS OBJECTIVE AND TO PERPETUATE STATUS QUO RESULTING FROM OCCUPATION..."

--NAM BUREAU "DEPLORED DECLARATIONS OF SOME LEADERS OF UNITED STATES RELATING TO REPEATED THREATS TO USE FORCE AGAINST PETROLEUM-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IN REGION OF ARABIAN GULF AND THEIR PLANS TO MAINTAIN MILITARY CONTINGENTS TO INTERVENE IN AREA."

--BUREAU CONDEMNED VARIOUS ABUSES IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

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--BUREAU EMPHASIZED THAT LASTING PEACE CAN ONLY BE REACHED WITHIN CONTEXT OF "GLOBAL SOLUTION, BASED ON TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAEL FROM ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES" AND EXERCISE BY PALESTINIAN PEOPLE OF LEGITIMATE NATIONAL RIGHTS "INCLUDING RIGHT TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL AND INDEPENDENT STATE IN PALESTINE AND RIGHT OF PLO, ONLY LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY EFFORT TOWARD A SOLUTION OF QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND MIDDLE EAST."

--GIVEN "EXPANSIONIST POLICY" AND "DILATORY TACTICS" OF ISRAEL, "THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND MILITARY SUPPORT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER STATES GIVE TO ISRAEL IS A MATTER OF SERIOUS PREOCCUPATION."

--BUREAU CONDEMNED ISRAELI INCURSION IN LEBANON AND DEMANDED "IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL" WITHDRAWAL. CALLED ON UN TO APPLY CHAPTER VII SANCTIONS TO THIS END.

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 HAVANA 1386

--BUREAU CALLED ON ALL STATES TO PROVIDE MATERIAL AND MORAL SUPPORT TO ARABS AND PLO, AND TO SUSPEND ALL HELP STRENGTHENING ISRAELI MILITARY POTENTIAL.

--NAM CONDEMNED ISRAELI CONVENTIONAL ARMS BUILD-UP AND INTENTION TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. CALLED FOR SUPPORT AT SSOD OF PROPOSAL ASKING FOR:

-"COOPERATION FROM ALL STATES, PARTICULARLY US, IN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER VII... TO PREVENT GRAVE THREAT TO PEACE...REPRESENTED BY PERSISTENT ESCALATION OF ISRAELI ARMAMENT."

-"SECURITY COUNCIL APPEAL TO ALL STATES..., REGARDLESS OF EXISTING CONTRACTS, TO ABSTAIN FROM SUPPLYING ARMS, MUNITIONS, MILITARY EQUIPMENT OR VEHICLES, OR ANY SPARE PARTS TO ISRAEL" DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AND END "TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT, FISSIONABLE MATERIAL OR TECHNOLOGY TO ISRAEL."

--NAM CONDEMNED ISRAELI ARMS SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA AND TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY GUATEMALA AND NICARAGUA.

--BUREAU CONDEMNED US POLICY OF "IGNORING" PALESTINIAN NATIONAL RIGHTS, EXPRESSED SERIOUS PREOCCUPATION WITH "CONTINUED USURPATION OF PALESTINE BY ISRAEL."

--NAM CALLED FOR SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE DECISIONS
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PERMITTING PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO EXERCISE RIGHTS "INCLUDING RIGHT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES AND PROPERTIES."

--BUREAU REAFFIRMED COLOMBO DECLARATION THAT "ZIONISM IS FORM OF RACISM."

4. EGYPTIANS APPRAISED COMMUNIQUE A SUCCESS BECAUSE SADAT AND HIS TRIP TO ISRAEL WERE NOT SPECIFICALLY CONDEMNED. SYRIANS, HOWEVER, STATE THAT THEIR INTENTION WAS NOT TO ATTACK SADAT PERSONALLY, BUT RATHER TO PILLORY HIS ALLEGED EFFORT TO PURSUE SEPARATE PEACE IN EXCHANGE ONLY FOR HIS SINAI TERRITORIES. SYRIAN EMBASSY HERE CLAIMS THATSYRIAN AMENDMENT (REF B) WAS APPROVED AT DAMASCUS POLITICAL LEVEL IN ORDER TO BLOCK EFFORT BY SADAT TOSEEK TO BARGAIN ONLY FOR SINAI. SYRIANS SAY THEY ARE WILLING TO MAKE UP WITH SADAT, IF HE IS WILLING TO SIT DOWN WITH SYRIA, JORDAN, AND PLO, IN ORDER TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAEL, US AND ANYOTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. SYRIANS CLAIM THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S INTENTION T GO TO GENEVA AND US GESTURES IN DIRECTION OF PLO WERE PURPOSELY TORPEDOED BY SADAT'S TRIP TO ISRAEL. (COMMENT: SYRIAN EMBASSY STATED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM'S DECISION NOT TO COME TO HAVANA WAS POLITICAL , BUT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH DISSATISFACTION WITH CUBA OR CUBA'S POLICY ON HORN. IMPLICATION WAS THAT KHADDAM DID NOT WISH TO BE PERSONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH SYRIAN HATCHET JOB ON SADAT.)

5. COMMENT: COMPARISON OF CUBAN ORIGINAL DRAFT (HAVANA 1343) AND SYRIAN ADDENDA (HAVANA 1336) LEADS TO INESCAPABLE CONCLUSION THAT NAM BROUGHT DAMASCUS' LINE OPPSOING SEPARATE PEACE EFFORTS. WHILE EGYPTIANS STATE THAT THEY ARE WORKING TOWARD GLOBAL SOLUTION, NAM COMMUNIQUE'S CRITICISM OF SADAT IS PATENT TO ALL READERS. ATTACKS ON UNITED STAEEES, ACCORDING TO BOTH SYRIANS AND EGYPTIANS, CONFIDENTIAL

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SERVE AS ANOTHER SYRIAN VEHICLE TO AVOID NEED TO ATTACK SADAT DIRECTLY. (FYI ORIGINAL SYRIAN ADDENDA DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION EGYPT OR SADAT.) END COMMENT.

6. AS FOR ROLE OF OTHER ARAB PARTIES HERE, WHILE IRAQIS STATED THAT SYRIANS DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH WITH THEIR ANIT-ISRAELI PROPOSALS, THEY CRITICIZED DAMASCUS FOR BEGINNING OPEN QUARREL WITH EGYPT IN NAM. PLO SIMPLY CONTRIBUTED TO EXTREMISM OF SESSION. MOROCCO, TUNISIA, AND SUDAN BACKED EGYPT.

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